Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

PAGE 01 NEW DE 13845 281650Z

43
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W
---------- 102229
O R 281530Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8106
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T NEW DELHI 13845

EXDIS

DEPT PASS CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR
SUBJECT: REPLACEMENT OF HANCOCK

REF: STATE 232662

1. WITH BREZHNEV IN NEW DELHI PUSHING THE INDIANS FOR FREE USE OF THEIR PORTS BY HIS NAVY AND THE INDIANS PUTTING UP AT LEAST SOME RESISTANCE, I AM TOLD THAT WE ARE GOING TO REPLACE THE HANCOCK WITH ANOTHER CARRIER FROM THE SEVENTH FLEET. THEN I AM TOLD TO TELL THE PRESS, IF THEY ASK, THAT THIS IS ONLY THE SAME OLD TEMPORARY DEPLOYMENT OF SHIPS FROM ELSEWHERE THAT WE TALKED ABOUT WHEN THE HANCOCK FIRST ARRIVED. I DOUBT THAT THIS MAKES SENSE EVEN IN WASHINGTON. IT CERTAINLY DOESN'T HERE.

2. HOW TEMPORARY IS OUR PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN INTENDED TO BE? IF WE GO AHEAD WITH THIS SHIFT AND I TELL THE GOVERNMENT HERE ABOUT IT -- AND CLEARLY I SHOULD -- THE INDIANS AREN'T GOING TO HAVE MUCH DOUBT ABOUT OUR INTENTION. CLEARLY THEY WOULDN'T THINK THAT WE WOULD BE SO STUPID AS TO TAKE ALL THE PUBLICITY OF PUSHING THOSE SHIPS THROUGH THE STRAITS AGAIN
SECRET

PAGE 02 NEW DE 13845 281650Z

IF WE DIDN'T PLAN TO STAY AROUND FOR A WHILE -- A LONG WHILE.

3. IF THIS IS TRUE -- THAT WE PLAN TO BE AROUND

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

IN THIS OCEAN FOR A LONG TIME-- THEN I WOULD LIKE
TO BE TOLD ABOUT IT. I AM EMPLOYED TO OFFER VIEWS
ABOUT SUCH THINGS BEFORE THE TENMINUTES' NOTICE
WHICH SEEMS

TO BE MY DUE. BUT I DON'T HAVE TO WAIT FOR FURTHER
WORD TO TELL YOU WHAT I THINK OF WHAT YOU PLAN TO
TELL THE NEWSPAPERS. TRADITIONAL POLICY OF TEMPORARY
DEPLOYMENT, INDEED* HOW DOES TEMPORARY POLICY OF
PERMANENT DEPLOYMENT GRAB YOU? ALTERNATIVELY, NO
COMMENT. OR, IMPERMEABLE POLICY OF CONTEMPORARY
UNEMPLOYMENT. GIVE AT LEAST SOME THOUGHT TO
O TEMPERA O MORES. IN LAST RESORT, BLAME THE
BRITISH.

4. WHATEVER WE DO LET US AT ALL COSTS NOT RPT
NOT TELL THE TRUTH.
MOYNIHAN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CINCPAC.

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
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Concepts: NAVAL SHIPS, PORT FACILITIES, USS HANCOCK, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MILITARY POLICIES
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Subject: REPLACEMENT OF HANCOCK
TAGS: MARR, IN, UR, XO, (BREZHNEV, LEONID I)
To: STATE INFO LONDON
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